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PART II

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

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FEDERAL SUPPORT OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS

Study

[3110-01-M]

OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

FEDERAL SUPPORT OF STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT PRODUCTIVITY IMPROVEMENT EFFORTS

Study by the National Productivity Council

On October 23, 1978, the President approved the establishment of the National Producitivity Council to serve as the focal point in the Executive Branch for Federal efforts to improve productivity in the public and private sectors of the economy. (Executive Order 12089; FEDERAL REGISTER, Volume 43, No. 207, October 25, 1978.) The Director of the Office of Management and Budget serves as Chairman of the Council. Other members of the Council are the Secretaries of the Treasury, Commerce, and Labor; the Chairmen of the Council of Economic Advisers, Council on Wage and Price Stability, and Council on Environmental Quality; the Directors of the Office of Personnel Management and Office of Science and Technology Policy; and the Special Trade Representative.

In its first meeting on December 11, 1978, the Council approved a study to determine the appropriate role of the Federal Government in supporting the productivity improvement efforts of State and local governments.

In developing the report the study team will rely heavily on input from public interest groups representing State and local governments, State and local governments active in productivity improvement efforts, major unions representing State and local employees, and other interested groups. Plans are being developed for interviews and other consultations with these groups during the preparation of the draft report. A notice announcing the availability for comment of the draft report will be published in the FEDERAL REGISTER and copies will be made available to any organization or individual wishing to review the report.

Any organization or individual wishing to submit written comments or statements for consideration in the preparation of the draft report is encouraged to do so. Written comments should be sent by March 1 to:

Edward H. Chase, Management Improvement and Evaluation Division, Office of Management and Budget, Room 10235, New Executive Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20503,

or

Allan D. Heuerman, Intergovernmental Personnel Programs, Office of Personnel Management, Room 2311, 1900 E Street, NW., Washington, D.C. 20415.

STUDY OUTLINE

1. *Objective of the Study.* The objective of the study is to determine the appropriate role of the Federal Government in supporting productivity improvement efforts of State and local governments.

2. *Scope of Study.* The study will focus on: (a) identifying types of assistance that would be most supportive of the efforts of State and local governments to improve their productivity, and (b) determining whether it is appropriate for the Federal Government to provide the assistance and through what mechanisms. The study will identify major factors affecting State and local government productivity and the introduction and use of productivity improvement programs. Current Federal support for State and local productivity improvement efforts will be documented. Options for future Federal support will be developed and assessed in terms of expected costs and benefits as well as the appropriateness of the Federal support from an intergovernmental relations standpoint. Approaches to assuring effective coordination of Federal support will also be considered.

3. *Major Elements of the Report.*

a. *Introduction.* The introduction will provide a brief background on the importance of State and local government productivity improvement and the Federal interest in promoting State and local productivity improvement.

b. *Key Factors and Needs.* This section will identify key factors influencing the productivity of State and local governments and the introduction and use of productivity improvement programs at the State and local level. Examples of current State and local productivity improvement efforts will be provided. Finally, this section will identify the various types of Federal assistance that would be most supportive of the efforts of State and local governments to improve their productivity.

c. *Current Federal Support.* This section will describe current Federal support of State and local government productivity improvement efforts. An examination of the various methods used to provide support (technical assistance, financial assistance, information programs, training, demonstration projects, etc.) will also be made.

d. *Options for Federal Support.* This section will address the options for modified or additional Federal support for State and local productivity improvement efforts. The study will address most major recommendations which have been made in other studies on this subject (e.g., the General Accounting Office, "State and Local Government Productivity Improvement: What is the Federal Role?"). The discussion of options will also include an analysis of whether Federal efforts should be "targeted" in certain areas; e.g., functions with major concentrations of State and local employment.

It is not intended that the report provide a review of the Federal grants system to identify changes to provide incentives for productivity improvement. To the extent such information is identified in the course of the study it will be included in the report.

4. *Study Team Membership.* Members of the study team will include representatives form the Office of Management and Budget, the Office of Personnel Management, the Department of Labor, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, the Office of Science and Technology Policy, and the National Science Foundation. A representative of the General Accounting Office will serve as an observer on the study team. The OMB and OPM representatives will serve as co-leaders of the study.

5. *Estimated Study Schedule.*

Draft Report Due, March 16.

Comment Period for Draft Report Ends, April 13.

Final Report Due, April 30.

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